

A MA AND PA STORE

In a recent **Boston Globe** article Tony Chamberlain of Duxbury features Ken's Country Store at Hall's Corner.

When Ken, a former fireman, ran out of milk one Sunday morning, he turned the store over to his wife, Mildred, (known better as Millie), who took over the cash register, "ringing up the unusual Sunday fare -- doughnuts, English muffins, pampers, kitty litter, and newspapers...." Then Ken drove to McIntyre's Dairy in Bridgewater for more milk. Writes Chamberlain:

"Ken's Country Store is a true Ma and Pa variety store with homemade fudge on the counter, old wooden walls, and the smells of penny candy and soap powder.

"It is the kind of place you once found on the corner of every neighborhood -- city stores, rural stores, suburban stores. All independent, all somehow the same -- the place you walked to, well, just for a walk and maybe an ice cream cone on a summer night. A place run by your neighbors. A trading post for gossip...."

Unique Emporium

Ken Thomas is grossing \$5,000 more this year than last. "The trouble is, though, with everything going up, we have to put our profits right back into the stock and new equipment."

Ken and Millie sell penny candy for kids, and often "a parent comes in with a kid and looks around and pretty soon he comes in regularly."

Ken buys specialty items from wholesale warehouses, and that, too, attracts Duxbury shoppers. He finds folks like his minced clams. "I was the only store in town this winter that had them. I remembered people were coming in and asking for them, so I bought them special. I must have sold 10 to 12 cases this winter. That's the kind of thing that makes our business."

Ken's Country Store sells the **Duxbury Clipper**, of course, and it is the only place in town (except for the **Clipper** office) where you can buy the anniversary issue of the **Clipper**, a 100-page historical supplement that gives a fascinating insight into the history of fabulous Duxbury.